



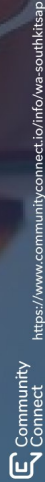
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 (360) 871-2411 www.skfr.org



South Kitsap County
 Community Connect
 South Kitsap Fire and Rescue

**CREATE YOUR HOUSEHOLD
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Together, Building a Safer Community Through
 Prevention, Preparedness & Response



<https://www.communityconnect.io/info/wa-southkitsap>

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

CONFIDENTIAL FREE AVAILABLE 24/7/365

988 connects those
 experiencing a
 mental health,
 substance abuse, or
 suicidal crisis with
 trained crisis
 counselors.



South Kitsap Fire and Rescue

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



We do have a strategic plan in place to meet the emergency service needs of our community. This includes increasing minimum daily staffing levels by eight firefighters over the next five years. This will provide another staffed fire engine and medic unit 24 hours a day to serve our community.

This plan involves restoring the fire levy to the rate previously approved by voters in 2017 of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. This “fire levy lid lift” will be on the November 8, 2022 General Election ballot as “Proposition 1.”

The fire levy accounts for almost 60 percent of our revenue. It funds fire suppression and some costs associated with emergency medical service, which accounts for nearly 70% of our calls. More emergency personnel will reduce response times by improving reliability and helping firefighters better manage overlapping calls.

There is more information about the lid lift on our website www.skfr.org. I also welcome your questions at 360-895-6502 or jfaucett@skfr.org. Thank you in advance for considering our request.

Respectfully,
 Chief Faucett

South Kitsap Fire and Rescue is the largest emergency services provider in Kitsap County, responding to more than 12,000 calls a year. Call volumes have increased almost 50% over the past 10 years – 10.7% in the last year alone.

We have worked hard to share information with our community about challenges to service. Specifically, we’re seeing a sharp increase in emergency calls and now overlapping calls. Plain and simple: we require more emergency personnel to respond and help our community.

For example, it can take up to 30 minutes to reach you during a medical emergency when our people are on another call. In some cases, we have had to rely on mutual aid or an ambulance to come from the hospital. This is not ideal, obviously.



The district's current levy rate has dropped to \$1.21/\$1,000. The district is asking voters to restore the rate to the previously approved \$1.50/\$1,000.



CALL VOLUMES UP 10.7% SINCE 2021
47.5% IN LAST 10 YEARS
RESPONSE TIMES ARE INCREASING



RESTORING THIS LEVY WILL PAY FOR MORE FIREFIGHTERS AND ADD ANOTHER 24-HOUR FIRE ENGINE AND MEDIC UNIT



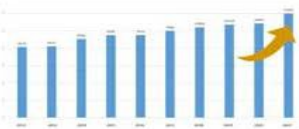
COST TO YOU? APPROXIMATELY \$10.87 PER MONTH OR \$130 A YEAR FOR A \$450,000 HOME

For more details, visit www.skfr.org



12,000
CALLS A YEAR

79,000
POPULATION



10.7% INCREASE IN CALLS SINCE 2020



Halloween is a fun, and spooky, time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips.

Halloween is a peak time of year for spooky celebrations and activities, but it also presents some truly scary fire safety hazards. As the holiday nears, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is encouraging everyone to take simple precautions that can help ensure the holiday remains festively fun.

NFPA offers these tips and guidelines for enjoying a fire-safe Halloween:

Decorations: Many common decorations like cornstalks, crepe paper, and dried flowers are very flammable. Keep these and similar decorations far away from any open flames or heat sources, like candles, heaters, and light bulbs.

Candles: Using candles as decoration can be risky if not done correctly. Keep them in a well-attended area out of the path of potential trick-or-treaters. Remind children of the dangers of open flames, and make sure they are always supervised when candles are lit. Extinguish candles before leaving an area.

Jack-o-lanterns: Glow sticks or electric candles are the safest choice when it comes to lighting up your jack-o-lantern, but if you choose to use a real candle, do so with extreme caution. Light a candle inside a jack-o-lantern using long fireplace matches or a utility lighter and keep it away from other decorations.

Visibility: Give children flashlights or glowsticks for lighting, these can even be incorporated into the costume. If your child has a mask, ensure the eye holes are large enough for them to see clearly.

Exits: Exits are NOT an appropriate place for decorations. When decorating, ensure that nothing is blocking any escape routes.